

# Feeding hay to cows

## square bales

### Adult responsibilities

#### ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Work area has no hazards
- Climbing structure is safe and stable
- Child has been fitted for a respirator and shown how to use it
- Animals have no disease



### Can your child do this job?

#### Main Hazards



Working up high can lead to falls



Weight of bales can strain muscles



Animal movement can cause injury

#### ABILITY

##### Can the child climb a ladder safely?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children must be able to climb a ladder correctly to do this job safely.

##### Can the child lift safely?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children must be able to lift correctly to do this job safely.

##### Is the child comfortable around cows?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children who are uncomfortable around cows are more likely to be injured.

##### Does the bale the child will lift weigh less than 10-15% of his or her body weight?

- Yes.
- No. **!** CAUTION! The child should carry the hay in smaller sections and an adult should carry the bale.

##### Does the child have to carry the hay less than 10-15 yards?

- Yes.
- No. **!** CAUTION! An adult should carry the hay to the feeding area.

##### Can the child react quickly?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Because cows behave unpredictably, children need quick reactions to avoid injury.

#### TRAINING

##### Has the child been trained on animal behavior?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children who don't understand animal behavior are more likely to be injured.

##### If the child is 12 or older, has he or she been trained to use cutting tools?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Training is needed to prevent injury.

##### Has an adult demonstrated feeding hay to cows on site?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children learn best when shown how to do the job at the work site.

##### Has the child shown he or she can do the job safely 4 to 5 times under close supervision?

- Yes.
- No. **!** CAUTION! An adult must watch constantly until the child shows he or she can do the job.

#### SUPERVISION

##### Can an adult supervise as recommended?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! The right level of supervision is key to preventing injuries.

#### Remember



Non-skid soles



Respirator as needed



Leather gloves

### Supervision

What's the right amount? Here are suggestions—but remember, it depends on the child.

#### Hay mow jobs and carrying bales in feed alley:

**Age 16+:**  
**CHECK** every few minutes at first. When the child shows he or she can do the job, **LEAVE** for 15 to 30 minutes.

#### Cut twine or wire:

**Age 12-13:**  
**WATCH** nearly constantly.

**Age 14-15:**  
**CHECK** every few minutes.

**Age 16+:**  
When the child shows he or she can do the job, **LEAVE** for 15 to 30 minutes.

#### Distribute hay to cows:

**Age 10-11:** **LIMIT** job to 20 minutes. **WATCH** nearly constantly. When the child shows he or she can do the job, **CHECK** every few minutes.

**Age 12-13:**  
**CHECK** every few minutes.

**Age 14-15:** When the child shows he or she can do the job, **LEAVE** for 15 to 30 minutes.